ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

# REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION - EPA REGION III

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|---|---|---|---|
| **Site Name:** | United Rigging & Hauling | | |
| **CERCLIS ID#:** | MDD981106768 | | |
| **DSN:** | MD-248 | | |
| **Alias Site Names:** | | | |
| **City:** | Beltsville | | |
| **County:** | Prince George's | | |
| **State:** | Maryland | | |
| **Watershed Priority Area:** | Anacostia | | |
| **Refer to Report Dated:** | April 17, 2014 | | |
| **Report Type:** | Expanded Site Inspection | | |
| **Report developed by:** | Maryland Department of the Environment for U.S. EPA | | |
| **Site Decision Made by:** | Joseph Vitello | **Date:** | 2/19/2015 |

**DECISION: N – NFRAP No Further Remedial Action Planned**

1. **Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:**
   - N - NFRAP No Further Remedial Action Planned
   - A - Addressed as part of an existing NPL site (site will be entered if this is selected)
   - D - Deferred to RCRA
   - B - Addressed as part of another non-NPL site
   - W - Referred to Removal, no further Remedial Assessment
   - DN - Deferred to NRC
   - SA - Recommended as a SF Alternative Site
   - OCA - Other Cleanup Activity: Fed Fac (FF) Private Party Lead (PP) State Lead (OS)

2. **Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:**
   - H - Higher Priority for further assessment
   - L - Lower priority for further assessment
   - G - Recommended for HRS Scoring
   - F - Referred to Removal, Needs further Remedial Assessment

## DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

### *Site History*

United Rigging and Hauling (URH) was a business located on a 10-acre property at 6701 Ammendale Road, Prince George's County, Beltsville, MD. The company was in the business of rigging and hauling and used the property primarily for the storage and maintenance of heavy equipment. At some point in time URH began using the site for the storage of old electrical transformers that were later salvaged for their scrap metal content. URH had acquired and stored more than 700 transformers at two different locations in manner which did not prevent or control spills of transformer oil, which contained poly-chlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). In 1986, the owner of the site sold the property to West Side Associates who then leased out the property to others.

### *Environmental History*

In March 1985, a complaint received by the Prince George's County Health Department (PGCHD) that oil was draining from a storm drainage culvert into an unnamed tributary of Indian Creek. PGCHD responded to the complaint and sampled the oil. Lab results indicated there was 235 ppm of PCBs in the sample. PGCHD then notified the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) of the results. The State of Maryland then collected surface water, soil and sediment samples from the Indian Creek tributary. Lab results showed PCB contamination in the soil and sediment samples. The Maryland Hazardous Waste Strike Force (HWSF) then collected numerous onsite soil samples which indicated PCB contamination as high as 55,000 ppm. Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Administration (HSWMA) then requested EPA to address the issues at the site using emergency authority.

On May 8, 1985, EPA conducted an emergency removal action of the PCB contaminated soils and the transformers at the site. More than 760 transformers were discovered at the site. Most of the transformers were determined to belong to the Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO). A Consent Order was finalized in August 1985 whereby PEPCO took over removal operations at the site. PEPCO completed site work in January 1986.

During the period between May 8, 1985 and December 2, 1985, a report by an EPA On-Scene Coordinator indicated that the EPA contractor removed 787 transformers, 10,562 tons of soil, 6,100 gallons of mineral oil and 61,820 gallons of sediment basin water. Post-removal sampling was conducted in 1990 (6 surface water samples, 5 sediment samples and 5 soil samples). Previous limited post-removal sampling in January 1986 (3 soil samples) had not detected PCB contamination in the ppm range. PCB contamination was detected in the majority of the 1990 samples. The highest level of 3.6 ppm was detected in the sample taken at the surface water sewer discharge pipe before entry into the unnamed tributary of Indian Creek.

In April 2013, the EPA determined it appropriate to conduct a re-assessment of URH based on the history of PCB releases from the site to surface water. Given the recreational and fishing activities in the area and the possible migration of PCBs into the Anacostia River watershed, the Maryland Department of the Environment conducted an Expanded Site Inspection

(ESI) of URH for the EPA in December 2013. The ESI focused on analyzing the sediments of three surface water bodies adjacent to URH for potential PCB contamination.

*Pathways and Exposure*

The surface water pathway was the only pathway evaluated in the ESI, with a focus on the sediments of a 0.4-mile section of an unnamed tributary to Indian Creek, a 2.5-mile section of Indian Creek itself downstream of URH to its confluence with Beaverdam Creek. There are several Probable Points of Entry for PCB contamination originating from the former URH property into the nearest surface water body, which is the unnamed tributary of Indian Creek. The tributary flows southerly for approximately 0.4 miles before discharging into Indian Creek. Indian Creek flows southerly for approximately 8.6 mile before discharging into the Anacostia River. Wetlands are associated with the unnamed tributary and Indian Creek itself and the adjacent lands of these water bodies lie within 100 and 500 year floodplains. No surface water intakes exist within two miles of the site. Drinking water is supplied to the majority of the Prince George's and Montgomery County population by a municipal water company with surface water reservoirs sourced from the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers. It is reported that 47 domestic groundwater wells are in use in a 4-mile radius of the site, serving approximately 128 people.

Fourteen samples were collected in total from locations upstream of URH to establish a background, adjacent to URH and downstream. Analytical results of the samples detected very low levels of the Aroclor 1252 PCB in only one sample and its duplicate, which was collected from the unnamed tributary of Indian Creek and was the first sample located downstream of the former URH property. In addition to evaluating the analytical results of sampling, MDE conducted a toxicological evaluation using a recreational use scenario which concluded there was no unacceptable risk to recreational users.

The groundwater, soil, and air pathways were not evaluated as part of this investigation.

*Decision*

Based on the analytical results of the fourteen sediment samples from various points adjacent to and downstream of the former URH property, there has not been a release of PCBs from the site to surface water. Only one sample collected identified a very low concentration (< 1.0ppm) of Aroclor 1252 and this concentration was validated by its duplicate sample having a concentration at the same low level. This ESI demonstrates that PCBs are not migrating from the former URH property to the nearest surface water bodies and supports the previous decision that No Further Remedial Action should be planned at URH. As a result, the EPA anticipates no need to take any Superfund enforcement, investigatory, cost recovery, or cleanup action at this site unless new data or information that warrants further consideration or conditions not previously known to the EPA regarding the site are discovered. Therefore, the site will be entered with a new priority of "No Further Remedial Action Planned" and will be re-archived from the active SEMS database.

# REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION – EPA Region 03

**Site Name:** UNITED RIGGING & HAULING

**Alias(es):** UNITED RIGGING & HAULING

**City:** BELTSVILLE **County or Parish:** PRINCE GEORGE'S **State:** MD

**Refer to Report Dated:** 04/17/2014 **EPA ID:** MDD981106768

**Report Developed By:** STATE **State ID:** MD-248

**Report Type:** EXPANDED SITE INSPECTION #001

- [x] 1. **Further Remedial Site Assessment Under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:** NFRAP-Site does not qualify for the NPL based on existing information
- [ ] 2. **Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA.**
- [ ] 3. **Remedial study/cleanup needed.**

**Decision/Rationale:**

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Decision

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Site Decision Made By: JOSEH VITELLO

Signature:_____ Date: 04/06/2015